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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A hand held remote control device that allows a user to select the position and movement of a cursor on a display screen or other selected functions by rotating or translating the input device in three-dimensional space. A signal is emitted from a beacon at a first location and is received by the remote control device at a second location. The remote control device detects, about two non-parallel axes, components of an angular displacement between the incident direction of the signal and a selected axis of the remote control device. Optical structures, such as cylindrical lenses, are used to project portions of the signal onto detectors in order to measure the angular displacement. Information corresponding to the detected angular displacement is transmitted to a control box, which controls the position and movement of the cursor on the display screen in response to the transmitted information.

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